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## SECOND SESSION

Thursday, April 23, 1914, 2.30 o'clock p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. JAMES BROWN SCOTT, Recording Secretary of the Society.

The CHAIRMAN. The subject this afternoon for discussion is what may be called the Monroe Doctrine in its historical development and application. Last night you had a statement by the President of the Society as to his conception of the Monroe Doctrine, and Mr. Charles Francis Adams, following, gave an account of the genesis of the Monroe Doctrine as he considered it to be. This afternoon we shall discuss the Monroe Doctrine in what may be called its historical manifestations. The subsequent sessions of the Society will deal with various phases and conditions, as distinct from the historical growth, of the doctrine as such.

You will note that there are three speakers this afternoon, and each speaker is expected to cover a certain period, more or less artificially chosen; and at the end of each paper there will be a discussion if you so desire, or the discussion may take place at the end of the papers as a whole, this afternoon, if that be your pleasure.

The subject as stated in the program is: "Statements, interpretations and applications of the Monroe Doctrine and of more or less allied doctrines."

It gives me very great pleasure to introduce Mr. William R. Manning, Adjunct Professor of Spanish-American History, University of Texas, who will deal with the first period, namely, from 1823 to 1845.

I will state, before the gentleman begins, that the papers are limited to twenty minutes—but my watch does not keep very good time.

Mr. MANNING. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen: Generally speaking, my paper will be principally confined to the first two or three years of the period mentioned, since in that two or three years there were numerous occasions for statements, interpretations, and at least one important application that called for numerous statements. Between 1827 and 1845 there were comparatively few occasions for statements, and those statements repeated virtually what had been made in the first two or three years; so that my paper will be confined

principally to the period of the presidency of John Quincy Adams and the period when Henry Clay was the Secretary of State.

# STATEMENTS, INTERPRETATIONS, AND APPLICATIONS OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE AND OF MORE OR LESS ALLIED DOCTRINES, FROM 1823 TO 1845

ADDRESS OF WILLIAM R. MANNING,  
*Adjunct Professor of Spanish-American History at the University  
of Texas*

In January of 1824, the month following the publication of the message containing the declarations later known as the Monroe Doctrine, an attempt was made to have Congress endorse the sentiments of the Executive. For this purpose Clay, then Speaker of the House of Representatives, caused a resolution to be introduced declaring:

That the people of these States would not see, without serious inquietude, any forcible intervention by the Allied Powers of Europe, in behalf of Spain, to reduce to their former subjection those parts of the continent of America which have proclaimed and established for themselves, respectively, independent governments, and which have been solemnly recognized by the United States.<sup>1</sup>

Congress refused to take action on the resolution, but Clay did not at once abandon his hope. Five months later, however, he announced that he "should continue to abstain from pressing upon the attention of the House his resolution" because events had shown that the apprehended attack by the European Powers on the American states had been abandoned, if such had ever been seriously entertained.<sup>2</sup> "Mr. Poinsett, of South Carolina, made a like attempt later, but with no more success. The Congress of that day," says Professor Burgess, "had altogether too much intelligence to make diplomatic opinions, advanced by the Administration, either laws of the land, or joint or concurrent resolutions of the legislative department of the Government."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Henderson, *American Diplomatic Questions*, 340.

<sup>2</sup>Moore, *International Law Digest*, VI, 405.

<sup>3</sup>Burgess, *The Middle Period*, 128.